

In the United States Court of Federal Claims
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS
No. 24-1270V

SHARI LOVELACE,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: April 16, 2025

Paul R. Brazil, Muller Brazil, LLP, Dresher, PA, for Petitioner.

Nina Ren, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.

DECISION AWARDING DAMAGES¹

On August 19, 2024, Shari Lovelace filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*² (the “Vaccine Act”). Petitioner alleges that she suffered a Table injury – shoulder injury related to vaccine administration (“SIRVA”) as a result of her October 10, 2023 influenza (“flu”) vaccination. Petition at 1. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On April 1, 2025, a ruling on entitlement was issued, finding Petitioner entitled to compensation for SIRVA. On April 16, 2025, Respondent filed a proffer on award of compensation (“Proffer”) indicating Petitioner should be awarded \$60,000.00 in pain and suffering. Proffer at 1-2. In the Proffer, Respondent represented that Petitioner agrees with the proffered award. *Id.* Based on the record as a whole, I find that Petitioner is entitled to an award as stated in the Proffer.

¹ Because this Decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action taken in this case, it must be made publicly accessible and will be posted on the United States Court of Federal Claims’ website, and/or at <https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/uscourts/national/cofc>, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2018) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). **This means the Decision will be available to anyone with access to the internet.** In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), Petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, I agree that the identified material fits within this definition, I will redact such material from public access.

² National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all section references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2018).

Pursuant to the terms stated in the attached Proffer, **I award Petitioner a lump sum payment of \$60,000.00 (representing pain and suffering) to be paid through an ACH deposit to Petitioner's counsel's IOLTA account for prompt disbursement to Petitioner.** This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under Section 15(a).

The Clerk of Court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.³

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Brian H. Corcoran
Brian H. Corcoran
Chief Special Master

³ Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment can be expedited by the parties' joint filing of notice renouncing the right to seek review.

**IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS**

| | | |
|--|---|-------------------------------|
| SHARI LOVELACE, |) | |
| |) | |
| Petitioner, |) | No. 24-1270V ECF |
| |) | |
| v. |) | Chief Special Master Corcoran |
| |) | |
| SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, |) | |
| |) | |
| Respondent. |) | |
| |) | |

PROFFER ON AWARD OF COMPENSATION¹

I. Procedural History

On August 19, 2024, Shari Lovelace (“petitioner”) filed a petition for compensation (“petition”) under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, 42 U.S.C. §§ 300aa-1 to -34 (“Vaccine Act”), as amended. She alleges that she suffered a Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine Administration (“SIRVA”), as defined in the Vaccine Injury Table, following administration of an influenza vaccine she received on October 10, 2023. *See* Petition. On March 31, 2025, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (“respondent”) filed a Rule 4(c) Report indicating that this case is appropriate for compensation under the terms of the Vaccine Act for a SIRVA Table injury, and on April 1, 2025, the Chief Special Master issued a Ruling on Entitlement finding petitioner entitled to compensation. ECF No. 13; ECF No. 16.

II. Compensation

Respondent proffers that petitioner should be awarded \$60,000.00 in pain and suffering.

¹ This Proffer does not include attorneys’ fees and costs, which the parties intend to address after the Damages Decision is issued.

See 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a)(4). Petitioner agrees.

This amount represents all elements of compensation to which petitioner is entitled under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a). Petitioner agrees.

III. Form of the Award

Petitioner is a competent adult. Evidence of guardianship is not required in this case. Respondent recommends that the compensation provided to petitioner should be made through a lump sum payment as described below and requests that the Chief Special Master's decision and the Court's judgment award the following²: a lump sum payment of \$60,000.00, to be paid through an ACH deposit to petitioner's counsel's IOLTA account for prompt disbursement to petitioner.

IV. Summary of Recommended Payment Following Judgment

Lump sum payable to petitioner, SHARI LOVELACE: **\$60,000.00**

Respectfully submitted,

YAAKOV M. ROTH
Acting Assistant Attorney General

C. SALVATORE D'ALESSIO
Director
Torts Branch, Civil Division

HEATHER L. PEARLMAN
Deputy Director
Torts Branch, Civil Division

VORIS E. JOHNSON, JR.
Assistant Director
Torts Branch, Civil Division

² Should petitioner die prior to entry of judgment, the parties reserve the right to move the Court for appropriate relief. In particular, respondent would oppose any award for future, unreimbursed expenses, future lost earnings and future pain and suffering.

/s/ NINA Y. REN

NINA Y. REN

Trial Attorney

Torts Branch, Civil Division

U.S. Department of Justice

P.O. Box 146

Benjamin Franklin Station

Washington D.C. 20044-0146

(202) 451-7499

Nina.Ren@usdoj.gov

DATED: April 16, 2025